

The Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission is requiring reductions for the 2010 recreational season. The ASMFC Summer Flounder Management Board met February 2 and approved options for meeting the reduction. We will present options at the scoping meeting February 10, and at a meeting in Salisbury February 11.

We have to take reductions for 2010

- Harvest estimates indicate that we must take a 23.6% reduction for 2010
- The target number of fish for 2010 is 75,000 fish, an increase from 61,000 in 2009
- Because we will be increasing the size, we may be able to increase the number of days in the existing season
- The ASMFC did not approve the option for split minimum size and creel by area
“The sample sizes and data available are insufficient to evaluate regulations with area or mode splits.”

The options being proposed will include one of the below options:

	Open Season	Creel/Size Limit. Statewide	Total % Reduction
Option 1	April 17 to September 21	3 @ 18.5	24.5%
Option 2	April 24 to September 24	3 @ 18.5	24.5%
Option 3	June 8 to October 30	3 @ 18.5	24.5%
Option 4	May 22 to October 16	3 @ 18.5	24.5%
Option 5	April 17 to Nov 22	3 @ 19.0	24.2%

The meeting in Salisbury will be at Wor-Wic Community College at 6pm in Guerrieri Hall Room 101.